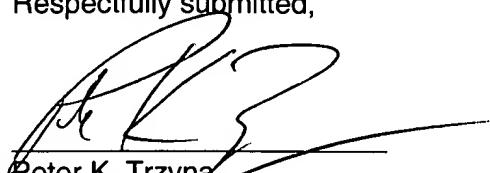


The application, as amended, is believed to be in condition for allowance, and favorable action is requested. The Examiner is invited to call if issuance can be expedited in any way.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with the above-identified patent application or credit any overcharges to Deposit Account No. 50-0235.

Please direct all correspondence to the undersigned at the address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



Peter K. Trzyna
(Reg. No. 32,601)

Date: November 14, 2001

P.O. Box 7131
Chicago, IL 60680-7131
(312) 240-0824